

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 172793
ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /016 R

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DRAFTED BY S/S-O:DROBINSON

APPROVED BY S/S-O:DROBINSON

-----065200 081221Z /45

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA NIACT IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 172793

EXDIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT BELIZE 672 ACTION SECSTATE JULY 8.

QUOTE S E C R E T BELIZE 672

EXDIS

DEPARTMENT PLS PASS GUATEMALA

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS: GT, US, BH

SUBJECT: TALK OF TERRORISTS

THIS AFTERNOON I MET AN ACQUAINTANCE WHO IS NON AMERICAN, APPEARS BE RELIABLE AND JUDICIOUS. I DO NOT KNOW HIM WELL BUT BELIEVE HIS BACKGROUND, EDUCATION AND PERSONAL STANDARDS ARE GOOD. HE HAS BEEN DEALING WITH ME ABOUT U.S. DESERTER WHO MAY WISH RETURN TO THE STATES. THIS DESERTER IS IN GUATEMALA AND ACCORDING MY SOURCE HAS BEEN ASSOCIATING WITH ANTI-GOVERNMENT TERRORISTS LOCATED ABOUT ONE AND ONE HALF HOURS HORSEBACK RIDE FROM MELCHOR ON BELIZE BORDER.

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MY ACQUAINTANCE VISITED TERRORIST CAMP LAST NIGHT TO TALK WITH US CITIZEN AND LISTENED TO GUATEMALAN TERRORISTS TALK ABOUT US EMBASSY. (HE SPEAKS SPANISH QUITE WELL). THEY WERE QUOTED AS SAYING "WE'LL TAKE CARE OF THAT EMBASSY" AND THEY SAID HE WAS "OK BECAUSE HE'S NOT AN AMERICAN." THEY ALSO WARNED HIM TO STAY AWAY FROM EMBASSY GUATEMALA CITY.

I HAVE NO IDEA OF FACTS OF THIS CASE EXCEPT INsofar AS THE
DESERTER IS CONCERNED. MY SOURCE APPEARS GENUINELY
MOVED TO ASSIST THE MAN AND I BELIEVE HE IS TELLING ME THE TRUTH.
ON OTHER HAND, I CANNOT PASS JUDGEMENT ON TERRORIST STORY EXCEPT
TO SAY THAT IT RINGS TRUE AND THAT SOURCE SOUGHT ME OUT AND
ASKED THAT I INFORM YOU.

I WOULD ASK THAT ANY USE OF THIS INFORMATION AS FAR AS GUATEMALAN
SECURITY IS CONCERNED BE DONE SO MOST CAREFULLY. I HOPE THAT
IN THE NEXT DAY OR TWO, I MAY BE ABLE TO WORK OUT SOMETHING
WITH THOSE WHO ARE HELPING THE DESERTER. WOULD APPRECIATE
ANY COMMENTS DEPARTMENT MIGHT HAVE AS TO AMNESTY STATUS,
OTHER INFORMATION I MIGHT PASS ON.

MY FRIEND DID NOT MENTION ANYTHING ABOUT TIMING OR PLANS
AND WHEN I ASKED HIM, HE SAID HE DID NOT HAVE ANY MORE
INFORMATION. HE WILL, HOWEVER, BE BACK IN AREA THIS WEEKEND
AND WILL TRY GET MORE INFO.
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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /016 R

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APPROVED BY S/S-O:KDSCOTT
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S E C R E T STATE 172793

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FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 172793 ACTION GUATEMALA JULY 8.

QUOTE E C R E T STATE 172793

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FOLLOWING REPEAT BELIZE 672 ACTION SECSTATE JULY 8.

QUOTE S E C R E T BELIZE 672

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TERRORISTS, DESERTION, INTELLIGENCE ASSESSMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
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